

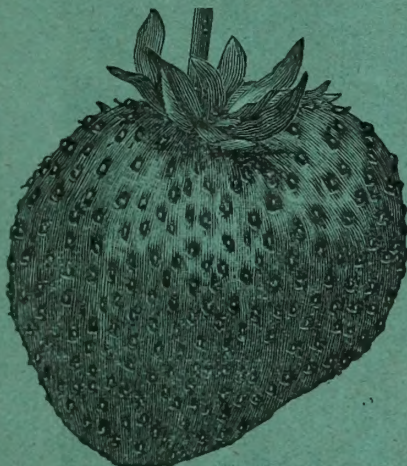
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62.67 Indexed
1894.

1894 CRAWFORD'S

CATALOGUE.



FREE TO ALL

M. CRAWFORD,

CUYAHOGA FALLS, O.

TO MY CUSTOMERS.

I commence to ship plants as soon as I can dig them—about the first of April—and carry on the work as fast as possible. I never have plants taken up in the fall and kept over, to be ready for early orders, but take them up when wanted. I can send them with perfect safety to any part of the country, as I pack them in the best possible manner. One thousand plants by express weigh about 30 pounds; 300 weigh 10 pounds. I guarantee the safe arrival of all orders sent by mail and express before May 15. I do not ship plants by freight. While bulbs ordered to be shipped by freight are packed with special care, I will not be responsible for them after their delivery to the railroad company. I seldom make mistakes, but, if any occur I will gladly correct them if notified immediately.

Money may be sent at my risk by postoffice or express money order, registered letter or draft on New York. Less than one dollar may be sent in stamps.

When ordering, please state whether other varieties may be substituted in case any of those ordered are sold out. I can often do this to advantage but never take the liberty without permission.

SPECIAL OFFERS.—To encourage early cash orders before the rush of the packing season, I make the following special offers: For each dollar received before April 1, I will send six small, blooming gladiolus bulbs, mixed colors; or six choice one-year seedling gladiolus bulbs, no two alike. These are below blooming size but will make large blooming bulbs for next year.

TERMS CASH.—I shall be pleased to continue to do business in the same way as heretofore with certain persons and firms with whom past dealings have been satisfactory to me, although not on a cash basis; but I do not desire to open any new accounts.

THE PLANTS I offer are all from beds set last spring on my own place and are first-class in every respect. The number of varieties is not large, but they are among the most valuable ever introduced. My intention was to have many more, but with almost no rain from May to the end of the season the stock of some of them is too small to offer. With over thirty years' experience in growing and packing plants, it is needless for me to say that every order will be filled in the best manner. My customers know this, and others will find it out by giving me a trial order.

THE STRAWBERRY.

(The letter (P) following the name of a variety denotes that it has a pistillate blossom; (B), a bisexual or perfect blossom.)

✓ TIMBRELL. (P)

This variety was originated by Mr. H. S. Timbrell, of New York. From what I have seen and heard of it I am satisfied that it is the best ever introduced. In September, 1892, I purchased 2000 plants which came directly from Mr. Timbrell's place. Some of these produced magnificent berries and lots of them last season.

The plant resembles that of the Bubach, but is a more luxuriant grower and a better bearer. The fruit is very large, nearly always of regular conical form, reasonably firm, and of very superior flavor. The color is crimson to the center. Those who have the best means of knowing say that it will endure more wet weather without injury and will keep longer before or after picking than most varieties. It is very late—the best late variety.

By mail, \$1.50 per dozen ; \$7.50 per hundred.

OTHER VARIETIES.

✓ **Beder Wood** (B).—This is generally conceded to be the best early variety for home use or a near market. It is a splendid grower, making a large number of strong runners. It has a perfect blossom and is immensely productive. Fruit of good size, round, light red, of medium firmness and good quality. One of the best to plant with early blooming, pistillate varieties.

✓ **Barton** (P).—Originated in Kentucky and introduced as the largest berry in the world and one that would yield 400 bushels per acre with good culture. After growing it a number of years and receiving reports from others, I am of the opinion that Mr. Barton was honest in all he claimed for it. It has been growing in favor for four or five years, and some growers consider it the most valuable market variety ever sent out. For healthy, vigorous growth and great productiveness, it is probably not surpassed. The fruit is large to very large, of roundish, conical form, often uneven on the surface, of medium firmness, not easily bruised, bright red, and of good quality.

✓ **Bubach** (P).—Perhaps the best known and most popular of all the large varieties. It is a rare thing for it to fail in any locality. The plant is a beauty—strong, healthy, vigorous and productive. I have regarded it as the ideal plant. It produces a sufficient number of strong runners, but not too many. The fruit is very large, of roundish, conical form, moderately firm, light red, and fair average quality. It has a crease on one or both sides that detracts from its beauty, and in a wet time the fruit is too soft to bear carriage to a distant market.

✓ **Beverly** (B).—Originated in Beverly, Mass., by Mr. Benjamin M. Smith. It has made a good record in nearly all localities where it has been tested. The originator has received a large price for the fruit on account of its size, beauty and quality; and nearly all the plants he could produce last season were sold at from two to three dollars per hundred to parties near home who knew all about it. The plant is all right every way, has a perfect blossom, and has yielded more than 100 quarts to the square rod. The fruit is large, roundish conical, brilliant dark red, sometimes a little rough on the surface, moderately firm, and of excellent quality.

✓ **Haverland** (P).—From southern Ohio. This has been a very satisfactory variety in nearly all localities, and is among the most popular. The plant is a healthy, strong grower, and enormously productive. I have picked at the rate of more than 100 bushels per acre at a single picking. Fruit, very large, long, conical, bright red, of medium firmness and good quality. Its fruit stalks are not strong enough to hold up the load of fruit, and mulching is a necessity.

✓ **Lovett** (B).—No person need hesitate to plant this variety for either home use or market, as it succeeds generally in any soil or locality. It is one of the tough, hardy varieties that never disappoint the grower. It has a perfect blossom and bears heavily. The fruit is from medium to large size, conical, firm, and of good color and quality.

✓ **Leader** (B).—From Reading, Mass. This will be a favorite with those who want to raise fine berries either for home use or market. It has made a good record as far as I have heard, is a strong healthy plant, and abundantly productive. The fruit is very

fine, dark glossy red, of good form, excellent quality, and quite firm.

✓ **Warfield** (P).—From southern Illinois. There is probably no better variety to raise for shipping to a distant market. It is a good grower, makes many plants of small or medium size, and is among the most productive. Fruit, roundish conical, of good size, firm, dark red, and fair quality. As it makes many runners, it should have plenty of room in order to be large and fine. It is early and holds out in size well to the end of the season.

✓ **Woolverton** (B).—Originated by Mr. John Little, the veteran strawberry grower of Canada. As I introduced this variety after growing it several years, I am pleased that it is becoming so popular. It succeeds in all soils and localities in hills and matted rows, and is suitable for home use, for market or for a show berry. It is a fine, healthy grower, and a great bearer. It has a perfect blossom, and continues in bloom a long time. Fruit, very large, roundish, conical, rarely misshapen, firm, and of good quality.

PRICES.—Plants of all varieties except Timbrell by mail prepaid 25 cents per dozen, \$1 per 100; by express at purchaser's expense 20 cents per dozen, 80 cents per 100; Barton and Beverly \$5 per 1000.

STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

The strawberry stands at the head of the list of small fruits in the matter of importance. It thrives in every part of North America and on almost every kind of soil. It grows with the poorest care but is unexcelled in repaying intelligent, careful culture. This last characteristic is what recommends it to thrifty, intelligent tillers of the soil. A person with even

small capital, poor health or small bodily strength but with brains and enthusiasm can grow large crops of fine berries and sell them at good prices.

Soil.—Gravel, sand, clay or muck, so long as it contains a good supply of available plant food, will suffice. It should not be shaded by trees or buildings nor should there be trees near enough to sap the ground. While the strawberry needs plenty of moisture, it will never flourish with the roots in stagnant water in the growing season, and the ground should have good natural or artificial drainage. High land is generally preferable to low land, as blossoms are more likely to be killed by frost in depressions than on elevations.

Preparation of the Soil.—In localities infested by white grubs, strawberries should not follow sod nor any crop in which that pest flourishes. The land, if possible, should be under cultivation for two or three years previous to planting strawberries, unless it is covered with a rank growth of red clover, unmixed with timothy or other grass. Grubs are not generally found in rank clover. Before strawberries are planted the land should be thoroughly pulverized, but the subsoil should not be turned up to the surface.

Fertilizers.—To reach the highest results strawberries require to be well fertilized. When fresh stable manure is used it should be plowed in. Rotten stable manure may be applied after plowing, and harrowed in. Commercial fertilizers may be harrowed in, drilled in, or sown in the rows with a planter. Bone dust and unleached wood ashes, applied at the same time, form a good fertilizer. For land of fair fertility, 40 two-horse loads of rotten stable manure, 1500 pounds of a complete commercial fertilizer or a ton

of bonedust and 40 bushels of wood ashes to the acre is a very good amount of fertilizer. On poor land more should be used. If wood ashes or commercial fertilizers are applied after the plants are set they should not be allowed to touch the leaves.

Planting.—The main points to be observed in spring planting of strawberries are to get them into the ground as early as it can be properly prepared to receive them, to keep the roots from getting dried by sun or wind, to have the crown of the plant level with the surface of the ground and to have the earth pressed firmly about the roots to prevent its drying out. If one is setting plants from his own patches and cannot do the work as early as he desires, he may take them up, trim them, shorten the roots to about three inches and “heel” them in, that is, plant them four or five inches apart in ground that will not bake. There they will send out fine roots and later may be transplanted to the permanent patch with scarcely a set-back. Plants received from others, not in good condition, should be treated in the same way. Here they should be watered if dry or shaded if blanched.

Plants may be set in various ways, but one of the most rapid and satisfactory is the following: A man takes a spade and a boy takes a pail half full of water and full of plants right end up. The man sets the spade in where the plant is to go and pushes the handle slightly forward. The boy takes a plant by the leaves and places the roots in this hole behind the spade, with the crown level with the surface. The man then withdraws the spade, taking care not pull the plant out of place, letting the earth run back against the wet roots. As the man steps forward to make the next hole, he sets his foot on this loose earth thus making it firm.

With a little experience the boy will learn to place the plants with roots spread out and at the right place almost intuitively. When plants that have been "heeled in" are planted in this way, they should be thoroughly watered before taken up and not placed in water, as it is desirable to have the earth adhere to the roots. It is a good plan before planting to wash the plants received from other parties, as insect enemies are sometimes on the roots or crown.

Strawberries are generally grown in hills, matted rows or a compromise between the two. In the hill system the plants are generally set in rows from two and a half to three feet apart and from a foot to a foot and a half apart in the row. Under the other systems the rows are generally four feet apart and the plants about two feet apart in the row. An excellent method is to plant a hill of early potatoes between every two plants in the row. When they are dug in July any white grubs in the ground are likely to be found in the hill, where they may be killed.

Pistillate varieties must have bisexual varieties planted near them in order to make them bear.

Culture.—The ground should be thoroughly cultivated from the time the plants are set until October. The stirring may be deep until early September, when it should be shallow near the plants, so as not to disturb the surface roots. Crust should never be allowed to form on the ground, and the oftener the cultivating is done the better.

All the blossoms should be cut off as soon as they appear. Under the hill system the runners are all cut off. Under the matted row system the runners should be cut off until the plants send out several strong ones at once. The compromise consists in letting only as

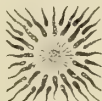
many runners remain to root as the grower desires. An excellent plan, if one has plenty of time, is to let matted rows be formed and in September cut out with a hoe or a trowel enough plants to leave strong plants eight or ten inches apart.

After cultivation ceases the plants should be mulched for winter protection unless the ground is so sandy that water passes out of it at once. The ideal method is to cover the ground, but not the plants, with short litter, as leaves, cut straw, or stable manure. When winter sets in, cover plants and all. The covering should be removed from over the plants before growth commences in the spring. Most growers simply place it between the rows to mulch the plants and keep the fruit clean. This is open to the objections that the mulch prevents cultivation and allows weeds to grow and also causes the blossoms to be more likely to be killed by frost. The best way theoretically is to remove the mulch from the patch and cultivate it carefully. Then, when the berries are set, the mulch should be replaced. As this requires considerable labor each grower must decide for himself whether this method is the best for him.

Marketing.—I would not advise any inexperienced person to plant extensively, expecting to ship his fruit to a distant market. First supply your home and near markets with good berries and then look for more distant ones when you find it necessary. I believe it pays well to sort all berries into one or two classes of salable ones, throwing out the small, misshapen, soft and hullless ones as unfit to sell. I consider it advisable to have a responsible person rather than the pickers do this.

Enemies.—The most destructive member of the

animal kingdom to strawberry plants is the white grub. Various plans have been recommended to get rid of the pest, but I have not found any of much value. The best way I know of is not to set plants in ground that contains many grubs. A few may be killed before they do much harm, by watching the plants closely, and when one wilts, except just after planting, give it a gentle pull. If it comes up easily and the roots are partly or wholly eaten off, dig carefully where the plant stood for a grub and, when found, kill it. Most other insect or larval pests do their work only after fruiting time. To counteract these the patch should be plowed under immediately after the last picking or treated as follows: Mow it off and rake the leaves between the rows and stir up the mulch. Then with a hoe cut the rows down to the required width and draw the plants thus hoed up to the mulch. Leave this rubbish a few days. The insects and other enemies will go into it. Then when it is dry burn it where it lies. Then cultivate the strip between the rows and treat like a new patch. In a few days the plants will send up fresh, green leaves and no rust is likely to appear that year.



THE GLADIOLUS.

Although there are many different species of the gladiolus, no one ever came into great favor until a new race, the *gandavensis*, was originated in Belgium. To this race belong all the choice varieties produced up to the time that Lemoine's Hybrids were sent out. These were produced by M. Victor Lemoine, of France, by crossing *G. purpureo-auratus* with a variety of *G. gandavensis*.

Some years later, M. Lemoine produced another race, *G. Nanceianus*. This has not become very popular, being but moderately vigorous, and having few flowers open on a spike at a time.

Mr. Max Leichtlin, of Baden Baden, Germany, has produced a new race by crossing *G. Saundersii* with a variety of *G. gandavensis*. These were introduced last year as the *Childsi*.

Gandavensis.—This class is so well known that it is hardly necessary to speak of its characteristics. The flower spike is nearly always straight, and the flowers well expanded. On the best varieties the flowers face one way, and often from six to twelve and occasionally fourteen and even sixteen are open at a time. With good culture, the spike will reach a height of four or five, and even six feet. If the spike be cut when the first flower expands, it may be placed in water and allowed to bloom in the house, just as well and even better than if left on the plant.

Mr. Luther Burbank, of California, has done more to improve this race than any other man living. He found that the petals of most of our varieties were too thin for the California climate and would wilt too soon. By raising an immense number of seedlings

and saving seed of the best, and repeating this process over and over, he finally succeeded in producing a strain with thicker petals and dwarfer growth, with all the beautiful colors of this race. This is all he claims, and he is not mistaken.

The *gandavensis*, is, in my judgment, far superior to any other race yet produced, taking all things into consideration. While each of the others excels in one or more particulars, this has about every desirable characteristic. It has always been the most popular in England, while Lemoine's Hybrids seemed to take the lead in France; but a few years ago Mr. Kelway, a noted English grower, captured most of the prizes at a great exhibition in Paris, where M. Lemoine did his best. I have noticed that English varieties, although very beautiful, seem to have less vitality and vigor than those raised here from American or German seed. A pound of German seed has produced, for me, many more bulbs than the same quantity of English seed, and for beautiful colors the German is not excelled.

Lemoine's Hybrids.—Nearly every one is charmed with these at first, but they do not generally wear like the *gandavensis*. Their prominent characteristic is a rich crimson or purple blotch on the lower petals. The stem of the flower spike is more slender, tough and graceful than that of the *gandavensis*, but the flowers are further apart and not so well expanded. While many of the spikes are crooked, a characteristic not generally admired by growers, many ladies say that crooked spikes are much more graceful when arranged in vases or jardinières than straight ones. Usually only two or three flowers are open at once, and this is certainly against it. They do not bloom

in water as well as one might wish. Some of the colors are not pleasing, but there are some superb bronze and other metallic tints. The bulbs have been called hardy, but this is not to be depended on very much.

Childsi.—This class is remarkable for its vigorous growth, and the size of its flowers. Many of the spikes reach a height of six feet. They produce a wealth of gorgeous blossoms, which attract great attention. I had over 200 mixed and named varieties last season and received reports from several sources. My experience and these reports agree in attributing two faults to this class, which may be remedied in time, viz: the petals have but little substance and cannot endure the sun and wind, and far too great a proportion—perhaps 90 per cent—of the flowers are red.

MY STOCK.

I offer for sale this spring three lots of bulbs, all very fine but of different character, Crawford's Standard Mixture, the Dallas Seedlings, and one year seedlings, which will be described later. For some time past I have sold bulbs by sizes, but have concluded to discontinue this practice for several reasons, one of the principal being that some varieties produce larger bulbs than others and persons purchasing either size do not get as large a collection as if the bulbs had not been graded. Except the one year seedlings, all my bulbs are from an inch in diameter upwards, sound, healthy and sure to bloom.

Fifty bulbs will be sold at hundred rates; five hundred at thousand rates.

Neighbors desiring to get a few bulbs would do well

to club together and get them at lower rates than if they bought singly. By marking the spikes when the flowers are in bloom and exchanging afterwards, each can get a much larger collection than he can hope to do if he buys a few bulbs for himself.

Crawford's Standard Mixture.—The basis of this mixture is the collection I have handled for several years and which has called forth enthusiastic testimonials from purchasers. It is so much improved now that I have the satisfaction of believing this is the best stock ever sold as mixed colors. I will state some of the reasons for this belief.

The stock was good to start with. For several years I have been destroying the less desirable varieties and at the same time adding much that is superior, instead of selling it at a higher price under name and color. It is quite generally understood that "mixed colors" mean odds and ends, left after removing all of value, and it is no wonder that many hesitate to order that grade.

This mixture is not of that character. It consisted at first largely of a number of good named varieties. For several years I have grown a great number of seedlings from choice seed saved by myself and purchased, mostly from Europe. Part of these seedlings I have sold and a small per cent. of the best I have saved for "seed stock." The remainder and the bulb-lets from those sold have gone into the mixture. A year ago I purchased a quantity of good stock, mostly Lemoine Hybrids, and this is now added. Further than this I have added several thousand seedlings, which reached salable size last fall. These were all from excellent seed, some of it being from Germany. Perhaps one per cent. were reserved for "seed stock,"

but, as most have never bloomed, there are doubtless many very valuable ones left—probably some better than any I saved.

The most valuable addition to the mixture, however, is that of several thousand bulbs of magnificent named seedlings of my own, which I have grown for a number of years. This is practically the first of the "seed stock" to come back into the mixture. It is my intention to add "seed stock" to the mixture each year, as the amount of it or of any variety of it increases sufficiently. I think that anybody must see that this is unusually fine stock and those who have purchased mixed bulbs of me in the past cannot fail to make most valuable additions to their collections by purchases this spring.

By mail, 30 cents per dozen, \$2 per 100; by express, \$1.50 per 100, \$10 per 1000.

The Dallas Seedlings.—I have for sale a large number of seedlings that were grown last season on my place by another party. The seed was purchased by myself two years ago from one of the most careful growers in Germany and, although I have purchased seed in several countries, I consider this one of the best lots I ever obtained from any source.

These seedlings have shown great health and vigor and, as far as they have bloomed, have shown some magnificent flowers. They especially excel in color. There are among them some wonderfully fine smoky, light and rose tints. No lover of fine flowers can fail to find among these many to admire.

There will be no two varieties in the entire lot exactly alike. There is no better way to get varieties to please the most critical or to name for a friend than to purchase a good number of these and save the

best. Unlike most seedlings these have never been culled at all.

I was made aware of their excellence on the grounds of a friend who had grown a large number from the same lot of seed and, having water at his disposal, was able to make nearly all of them bloom last season. An artist said he would rather have 100 of these, as they come, than an equal number of named varieties costing several times as much.

Every purchaser of these seedlings is requested to favor me with a report of their behavior.

By mail, 40 cents per dozen; \$2.50 per 100; by express, \$2 per 100; \$15 per 1000.

One Year Seedlings.—This class of bulbs is seldom offered for sale, the main reason being that most growers raise but few seedlings and will not take the risk of selling any until they have seen them in bloom, that they may save the finest to sell by name or color. As I grow a very large number and do not sell by name and color, I am enabled to offer them before they have bloomed. Good seed is scarce and very dear and seedlings are hard to grow, even the most experienced failing to meet with success always. I believe those of my customers who are inexperienced but want to enjoy the pleasure of seeing a lot of bulbs bloom for the first time would be more sure of satisfactory results by purchasing these than by attempting to grow them from seed.

My seedlings this year are from seed purchased from two German, one English and one American grower and saved by myself. They are partly *Lemoine* but mostly *gendavensis*. Those I shall sell will average one-third to one-half an inch in diameter. Few will bloom this year, but all will make fine

blooming bulbs for another year. There are no two alike, and every lot will contain many very choice ones.

By mail, \$1 per 100, \$7.50 per 1000.

GLADIOLUS CULTURE.

The gladiolus succeeds in all localities and on all soils. It is very easy to grow, and nobody need fear that he will not succeed, if he exercises proper care and ordinary intelligence. The bulbs may be planted in April, May or June, and where one has a number, it is well to plant at several times and thus prolong the blooming season. Blooming bulbs should be planted about four inches deep and as far apart as is desired. All bulbs should be taken up in October. The tops should be cut off, the bulbs dried and placed perhaps two inches deep in handle baskets and hung up to joists in the cellar for winter.

Printed instructions for growing and caring for one year seedlings will be sent with each order.

M. CRAWFORD,

CUYAHOGA FALLS. O.



TESTIMONIALS FOR 1893.

"Blossoms from gladiolus bulbs received from you last season were the finest thing we ever saw."

GREEN'S NURSERY CO., Rochester, N. Y.

"We are enjoying your gladioli very much. I picked over 50 blossoms no two alike the other day. The larger part of the one year seedlings you sent this spring will bloom notwithstanding I could not plant until late." S. T. WALKER, Forest Grove, Ore.

"I am having some fine flowers from the gladiolus bulbs I got from you in the spring. They have done nicely, are of many colors and shades, solid, striped and flaked or spotted."

A. D. P. YOUNG, Ashtabula, Ohio.

"The bulbs I got from you are blooming now, at least a fair per cent. of them, and they are really grand. I am much pleased with them. They beat my former goods in that line by far."

WM. LIBOLT, Bloomingburg, N. Y.

"The gladioli purchased of you last spring gave us and many others that saw them great pleasure. They were just grand."

H. P. GREENO, East Troy, Pa.

"Strawberries received and they are splendid."

E. P. POWELL, Clinton, N. Y.

"The plants came all right. Thanks for the liberal count and the extra plants."

GEO. GRENVILLE, Kingsville, Ont.

"I received the strawberry plants a few days ago. I set them out, and to-day they appear to be O. K."

THOS. MCKENZIE, Fredrickton, N. B.

"Plants arrived in good condition."

H. C. REDKNAP, Beulah, Manitoba.

"Plants received by mail in good order. Thanks for your careful packing."

W. K. SMALLEY, Atchison, Kan.

"The plants by mail received to-day in perfect order."

W. H. THOMAS, La Grange, Mo.

"Plants received in good order. Thanks for extra count."

J. B. MYERS, Boise, Idaho.

"Plants arrived in fine condition, and are the best rooted plants I ever bought."

W. B. COLTON, Ashland, Ore.

"I have never received finer strawberry plants nor had any come through in better order."

NELSON LUNDWALL, Bozeman, Mont.

TO CANADIAN HORTICULTURISTS.

My friend, Mr. John Little, of Granton, Ont., is the most careful and painstaking strawberry specialist that I know of in Canada. He tests nearly every variety introduced and a great many new seedlings. He issues a catalogue containing true descriptions of most of the standard varieties and many that are rarely found elsewhere. He packs plants with great care and is perfectly reliable. I recommend my Canadian customers to buy of him, as, by so doing they escape the vexatious delays of the customs department. His catalogue is sent free to any address.

FINE PANSIES.

D. B. Woodbury, of Paris, Me., makes a specialty of the Pansy, and is prepared to furnish seed of extra quality. I have tested it many times and know that it is superior, though sold at a moderate price. He also raises seedling potatoes and many other things in which most tillers of the soil are interested. His catalogue is sent free to any address.

THE STRAWBERRY CULTURIST

Published quarterly at Salisbury, Md. at 20 cents a year, is worth many times the price to all who grow strawberries.